In the Specification

Page 38, between lines 1 and 2, insert--

Brief Description of the Drawings

Drawing # 1 is a computer program flowsheet for Process#1 and Process#1A. Drawing #1 is a flowsheet illustrating computer programs that execute Process#1 and Process#1A. –

In the Claims

Please amend the following claims:

20. (ONCE AMENDED) A process as in any one of claims 3-[19] 5, 7 or 8, wherein there is a subgroup of the covering markers, and the markers in the subgroup are a majority of the covering markers, and each marker in the subgroup is an SNP, or a bi-allelic marker equivalent formed only from one or more SNPs.

23. (ONCE AMENDED) A process as in [any one of] claim 22, wherein the process comprises a computer program.

50. (ONCE AMENDED) A process for obtaining genotype data/sample allele frequency data as in any one of claims 33-[49]35, 37 or 38, wherein there is a subgroup of the covering markers, and the markers in the subgroup are a majority of the covering markers, and each marker in the subgroup is an SNP, or a bi-allelic marker equivalent formed only from one or more SNPs.

Please cancel the following apparatus claims and replace each claim with an equivalent claim that is in proper "means plus function" for U.S. patent practice:

Please cancel apparatus claim 54 and replace claim 54 with a new equivalent apparatus claim 97 that is in proper "means plus function" for U.S. patent practice.

97. An apparatus for obtaining genotype data/sample allele frequency data for each bi-allelic marker of a group of two or more bi-allelic covering markers in the chromosomal DNA of one or more individuals of a sample, each individual in the sample being a member of the same species, comprising:

a) means for determining information on the presence or absence of each allele of each bi-allelic marker of a group of two or more bi-allelic covering markers in the chromosomal DNA of one or more individuals of a sample, a CL-F region being systematically covered by the two or more bi-allelic covering markers, the CL-F region being a collection of points on a two-dimensional plane, the two-dimensional plane having the two orthogonal dimensions of chromosomal location and least common allele frequency; and
b) means for transforming the information of means a) into genotype data/sample allele frequency data for each marker of the group.
Please cancel apparatus claim 57 and replace claim 57 with a new equivalent apparatus claim 98 that is in proper "means plus function" for U.S. patent practice.
98. An apparatus as in claim 97, wherein the apparatus comprises oligonucleotide technology or mass spectrometry.

Remarks

The applicants wish to respectfully thank the Examiner for his examination of the present application. In the Office Action, the Examiner examined claims 1 through 96 inclusive submitted April 2000 in the PCT International Stage Application. The applicants, however, respectfully note that prior to 30 month entry into the US National Stage, all of these April 2000 claims were cancelled except for claims 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 20, 21, 22, 23, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, and 57. The applicants thus respectfully submit that only claims 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 20, 21, 22, 23, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, and 57 are still pending or were ever pending in the present US National Stage application.
The applicants respectfully suggest that perhaps all of the paperwork upon 30 month entry (Aug 26, 2000) into the National Stage did not reach the Examiner prior to his examination. This paperwork includes the TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35U.S.C. 371 and a request that only 20 claims (including 3 independent claims) be examined. In addition the applicants filed amendments (with replacement pages) to the specification which applicants judged did not add new matter to the specification. A copy of this paperwork is included herewith to aid in placing the application in condition for allowance.